International Application No.: PCT/JP2004/015046

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May 20, 2006 Page 5 of 6

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

LISTING OF CLAIMS:

Claims 1-3 (canceled).

Claim 4 (new): A lens material comprising:

lithium tantalate including a lithium oxide and a tantalum oxide; wherein a molar composition ratio of the lithium oxide and the tantalum oxide (Li2O/Ta2O5) in the lithium tantalate is in a range of 0.975 to 0.982; and a birefringence of the lithium tantalate is in a range of -0.0005 to 0.0005.

Claim 5 (new): An optical electronic component including the lens material according to Claim 4.

Claim 6 (new): An optical electronic device including the optical electronic component according to Claim 5.